

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/025,087

Examiner

Moustafa M Meky

Applicant(s)

HENRY ET AL.

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10/13/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

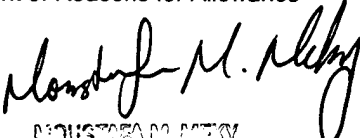
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


MOUSTAFA M. MEKY
PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Paul Mitchell on 02/03/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

CANCEL CLAIM 2.

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A document tracking method, comprising:
 - sending a document from a multifunction device to a network destination;
 - sending a tracking component for said document from said multifunction device to a receipt service;
 - sending a confirmation of receipt to said receipt service when said document is at said network destination; and
 - generating a return receipt based at least in part on said tracking component and said confirmation of receipt at said receipt service when said document is at said network destination to acknowledge receipt of said document by said network

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destination and wherein the method is configured to deliver said document from said multifunction device to said network destination without relying on an operational status of said receipt service.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising manually activating delivery of said confirmation of receipt of said document at said network destination.

15. (Second Amended) A document tracking method, comprising:

sending an electronic document from a multifunction device to a network destination;

sending an electronic tracking component for said document from said multifunction device to a receipt service;

sending a confirmation of receipt to said receipt service when said electronic document is at said network destination; and

generating a return receipt at said receipt service based at least in part on said tracking component and said confirmation of receipt to acknowledge receipt of said electronic document by said network destination and wherein the method is configured to deliver said electronic document from said multifunction device to said network destination without relying on an operational status of said receipt service.

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23. (Second Amended) A system for tracking a document, comprising:
- a multifunction device for sending said document to a network destination;
 - a tracking component generated for said document and sent from said multifunction device;
 - a confirmation of receipt sent from said network destination when said document is at said network destination; and
 - a receipt service for receiving said tracking component and said confirmation of receipt and for generating a return receipt based at least in part on said tracking component and said confirmation of receipt to acknowledge receipt of said document by said network destination and wherein the method is configured to deliver said document from said multifunction device to said network destination without relying on an operational status of said receipt service.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches or suggests generating a return receipt at receipt service, based at least in part on tracking component received from a multifunction device and confirmation of receipt when document sent by the multifunction device is at network destination to acknowledge receipt of the document by the network destination and wherein the document is delivered from the multifunction device to the network destination without relying on an operational status of the receipt service..

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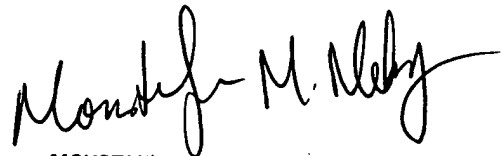
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Moustafa M Meky whose telephone number is 571-272-4005. The examiner can normally be reached on flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MMM
2/4/2005



MOUSTAFA M. MEKY
PATENT EXAMINER